

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 EB-11 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 SAM-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20 AID-20 NIC-01 IGA-02

DRC-01 /170 W

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R 111420Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9508

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR GV SG UV

SUBJECT : GUINEAN VIEW OF UPPER VOLTA DEVELOPMENTS

REF: CONAKRY 0175 (NOTAL)

1. DURING NEWS BROADCAST ON FEB 10, RADIO CONAKRY CARRIED A "SPECIAL REPORT FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN ABIDJAN ON RECENT COUP IN UPPER VOLTA." ACCORDING TO CORRESPONDENT, COUP WAS WORK OF "FRENCH GOVERNOR GENERAL IN THE IVORY COAST FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY" ACTING ON BEHALF OF FRANCE TO REIMPOSE "PUPPET OF PUPPETS" "LT GOV" MAURICE YAMEOGO ON VOLTAIQUES. RADIO ALSO CHARGED THAT HOUPHOUET REGIME CONCERNED OVER DISSATISFACTION FELT BY FARMERS, STUDENTS, AND MILITARY.

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2. COMMENT: EDITORIAL, WHICH HAS SEVERAL GLARING CONTRADICTIONS, LEAVES CONFUSED IMPRESSION OF LAMIZANA'S ROLE IN COUP. AT ONE POINT, HIS REGIME WAS CALLED PATRIOTIC, YET THE REGIME UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP IS CASTIGATED. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR TODMAN ON JANUARY 5, PRESIDENT TOURE DENOUNCED UPPER VOLTA REGIME AND CLAIMED TO HAVE REPORT FROM ONE OF HIS SOURCES IN OUAGADOUGOU THAT MINISTERS AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS HAD BEEN MISAPPROPRIATING DROUGHT RELIEF GOODS ON VAST SCALE. FEB 10 EDITORIAL ALSO MARKS END TO APPARENT TRUCE IN TOURE'S WAR OF WORDS, AT LEAST AGAINST HOUPHOUET. TOURE SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF UPPER VOLTA DEVELOPMENTS TO REOPEN VERBAL HOSTILITIES AND IF HE MADE ANY PROMISE TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT (REFTEL) OR OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS TO REFRAIN FROM SUCH ATTACKS, HE PROBABLY FEELS OUAGADOUGOU DEVELOPMENTS OF LAST WEEK GIVE HIM REASON FOR BREAKING PROMISE.
HAVERKAMP

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